

What is claimed is:

1. A medical device, comprising:

an elongated tubular member having a proximal segment, a distal segment, and an inner lumen disposed at least partially therethrough, the distal segment configured to radially expand when axially compressed; and

a dilator tip insertable at least in part within the distal segment.

2. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the proximal segment varies in thickness along its length.

3. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the distal segment includes a braid.

4. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the dilator tip has a generally circular transverse cross-sectional area.

5. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the dilator tip has a proximal section, a distal section, and an inner lumen disposed therethrough.

6. The medical device of claim 5, wherein the proximal section of said dilator tip is configured to tightly fit within the distal segment.

7. The medical device of claim 5, wherein the distal section of said dilator tip is distally tapered.

8. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the elongated tubular member is configured to radially expand and encompass an intravascular device therein.

9. The medical device of claim 8, wherein the intravascular device is an embolic protection filter.

10. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the elongated tubular member is configured for use over-the-wire.

11. The medical device of claim 1, wherein the elongated tubular member is configured for single operator exchange.

12. A medical device, comprising:
an elongated tubular member having a proximal segment, a distal segment, and an inner lumen disposed at least partially therethrough, the distal segment including a braid configured to radially expand when axially compressed; and
a dilator tip insertable at least in part within the distal segment.

13. The medical device of claim 12, wherein the proximal segment varies in thickness along its length.

14. The medical device of claim 12, wherein the dilator tip has a generally circular transverse cross-sectional area.

15. The medical device of claim 12, wherein the dilator tip has a proximal section, a distal section, and an inner lumen disposed therethrough.

16. The medical device of claim 15, wherein the proximal section of said dilator tip is configured to tightly fit within the distal segment.

17. The medical device of claim 15, wherein the distal section of said dilator tip is distally tapered.

18. The medical device of claim 12, wherein the elongated tubular member is configured to radially expand and encompass an intravascular device therein.

19. The medical device of claim 18, wherein the intravascular device is an embolic protection filter.

20. The medical device of claim 12, wherein the elongated tubular member is configured for use over-the-wire.

21. The medical device of claim 12, wherein the elongated tubular member is configured for single operator exchange.

22. A medical device, comprising:
an elongated tubular member having a proximal segment, a distal segment, and an inner lumen disposed at least partially therethrough, the distal segment configured to radially expand when axially compressed; and
a dilator tip insertable at least in part within the distal segment, the dilator tip having a proximal section configured to tightly fit within the distal segment, a distal section, and an inner lumen disposed therethrough.

23. The medical device of claim 22, wherein the proximal segment varies in thickness along its length.

24. The medical device of claim 22, wherein the distal segment includes a braid.

25. The medical device of claim 22, wherein the dilator tip has a generally circular transverse cross-sectional area.

26. The medical device of claim 22, wherein the distal section of said dilator tip is distally tapered.

27. The medical device of claim 22, wherein the elongated tubular member is configured to radially expand and encompass an intravascular device therein.

28. The medical device of claim 27, wherein the intravascular device is an embolic protection filter.

29. The medical device of claim 22, wherein the elongated tubular member is configured for use over-the-wire.

30. The medical device of claim 22, wherein the elongated tubular member is configured for single operator exchange.

31. A system for retrieving an intravascular device disposed within a body lumen, comprising:

an embolic protection filter disposed about an elongated wire;

a retrieval device configured to radially expand and encompass the intravascular filter therein, said retrieval device comprising an elongated tubular member having a proximal segment, a distal segment, and an inner lumen adapted to slidably receive the elongated wire; and

a dilator tip insertable at least in part within the distal segment, said dilator tip configured to engage a stop disposed about the elongated wire.

32. A system for retrieving an intravascular device disposed within a body lumen, comprising:

an embolic protection filter disposed about an elongated wire;

a retrieval device configured to radially expand and encompass the intravascular filter therein, said retrieval device comprising an elongated tubular member having a proximal segment, a distal segment, and an inner lumen adapted to slidably receive the elongated wire; and

a dilator tip insertable at least in part within the distal segment, the dilator tip including a proximal section configured to tightly fit within the distal segment, a distal section configured to engage a stop disposed about the elongated wire, and an inner lumen disposed therethrough configured to slidably receive the elongated wire.